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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/646,340	08/21/2003	Fong Liaw	HAMMP002	8337
21912 7590 12/04/2007 VAN PELT, YI & JAMES LLP 10050 N. FOOTHILL BLVD #200 CUPERTINO, CA 95014			EXAMINER SHAND, ROBERTA A	
			ART UNIT 2616	PAPER NUMBER
			MAIL DATE 12/04/2007	DELIVERY MODE PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

## Office Action Summary

**Application No.**

10/646,340

**Applicant(s)**

LIAW ET AL.

**Examiner**

Roberta A. Shand

**Art Unit**

2616

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --  
**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 13 September 2007.
- 2a) ☒ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☐ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)   | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)                       | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application                       |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)<br>Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____  |

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

2. Claims 1-18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Hartmann (U.S. 5905873).

3. Regarding claim 1, Hartmann teaches a method of processing a packet comprising: receiving the packet; translating the packet from a first protocol-specific format (generic protocol) to a canonical packet format having a fixed length (col. 3, lines 17-26, Hartmann teaches converting generic packets to a data packet having ATM format. ATM is a *fixed length* packet format.); translating the packet from the canonical packet format to a second protocol-specific format (fig. 8); and forwarding the packet.

4. Regarding claim 2, Hartmann teaches (fig. 7b) the canonical packet format is a generic format (predefined generic packet format) that can represent multiple protocol-specific formats.

5. Regarding claim 3, Hartmann teaches (fig. 8) the translating is performed in a network device.

6. Regarding claim 4, Hartmann teaches (fig. 7b) the translating is performed in a network switch.

7. Regarding claim 5, Hartmann teaches (fig. 7b) the translating is performed in a network switch that includes a pooling switch.

8. Regarding claim 6, Hartmann teaches the first and second protocol-specific formats are the same. Hartmann teaches (col. 3, lines 17-26) that the packet format types can comprised a plurality of protocols.

9. Regarding claim 7, Hartmann teaches (col. 15, line 60 – col. 16, line 12) translating includes copying protocol-specific fields from the packet in the first protocol-specific format.

10. Regarding claim 8, Hartmann teaches (col. 15, line 60 – col. 16, line 12) translating includes copying protocol-specific fields from the packet in the first protocol-specific format to protocol-specific fields in the packet in the canonical packet format.

11. Regarding claim 9, Hartmann teaches (col. 15, line 60 – col. 16, line 12) translating includes copying general fields from the packet in the first protocol-specific format.

12. Regarding claim 10, Hartmann teaches (col. 15, line 60 – col. 16, line 12) translating includes copying multiple protocol-specific fields from the packet in the first protocol-specific format.

13. Regarding claim 11, Hartmann teaches (col. 15, line 60 – col. 16, line 12) translating includes copying protocol-specific fields from the packet in the first protocol-specific format to common fields in the packet in the canonical (generic) packet format.

14. Regarding claim 12, Hartmann teaches (col. 15, line 60 – col. 16, line 12) a method of processing a packet as recited in claim 1 wherein translating includes: copying protocol-specific fields from the packet in the first protocol-specific format to protocol-specific fields in the packet in the canonical packet format; copying general fields from the packet in the first protocol-specific format to general fields in the packet in the canonical packet format; and copying common fields from the packet in the first protocol-specific format to common fields in the packet in the canonical packet format (It is inherent in Hartmann's system that copying takes place in order to convert the generic packet format back to the original protocol).

15. Regarding claim 13, Hartmann teaches (figs. 7b and 8) the translating is performed in a network device; translating the packet from the first protocol-specific format to the canonical (generic packet format) packet format occurs during data ingress; and translating the packet from the canonical packet format to the second protocol-specific format occurs during data egress.

16. Regarding claim 14, Hartmann teaches (col. 3, lines 17-26) a network device for processing a packet comprising: an ingress interface for receiving the packet (fig. 7b, input packet format); an ingress processing engine configured to translate a packet from a first protocol-specific format to a canonical packet format having a fixed length (col. 3, lines 17-26, Hartmann teaches converting generic packets to a data packet having ATM format. ATM is a *fixed length* packet format.); an egress processing engine (output packet format) configured to translate the packet from the canonical packet format to a second protocol-specific format; and an egress interface for forwarding the packet fig. 7b).

17. Regarding claim 15, Hartmann teaches (fig. 6) the ingress and egress interfaces are the same physical interface Hartmann teaches in fig. 6 that the crossbar is single sided so the protocol converters are both input and output devices.

18. Regarding claim 16, Hartmann teaches (fig. 8) the ingress and egress processing engines are implemented on a single physical processor.

19. Regarding claim 17, Hartmann teaches (col. 3, lines 17-26) at least one field of the canonical packet format is shared by multiple protocols.

20. Regarding claim 18, Hartmann teaches (col. 3, lines 17-26) a computer program product for processing a packet, the computer program product being embodied in a computer readable medium and comprising computer instructions for: receiving the packet (fig. 7b, input packet

format); translating the packet from a first protocol-specific format to a canonical packet format having a fixed length (col. 3, lines 17-26, Hartmann teaches converting generic packets to a data packet having ATM format. ATM is a *fixed length* packet format.) translating the packet from the canonical packet format to a second protocol-specific format; and forwarding the packet (fig. 7b).

### ***Response to Arguments***

21. Applicant's arguments filed September 13, 2007 have been considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argues that Hartmann does not teach "translating the packet from a first protocol-specific format to a canonical packet format having a fixed length" Applicant is directed to col. 3, lines 17-26, where Hartmann teaches converting generic packets to a data packet having ATM format. ATM is a *fixed length* packet format.

*Conclusion*

22. Applicant's amendment necessitated the new ground(s) of rejection presented in this Office action. Accordingly, **THIS ACTION IS MADE FINAL**. See MPEP § 706.07(a). Applicant is reminded of the extension of time policy as set forth in 37 CFR 1.136(a).

23. A shortened statutory period for reply to this final action is set to expire THREE MONTHS from the mailing date of this action. In the event a first reply is filed within TWO MONTHS of the mailing date of this final action and the advisory action is not mailed until after the end of the THREE-MONTH shortened statutory period, then the shortened statutory period will expire on the date the advisory action is mailed, and any extension fee pursuant to 37 CFR 1.136(a) will be calculated from the mailing date of the advisory action. In no event, however, will the statutory period for reply expire later than SIX MONTHS from the date of this final action.

24. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Roberta A. Shand whose telephone number is 571-272-3161. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 9:00am-5:30pm.

25. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Huy Vu can be reached on 571-272-3155. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.



Application/Control Number:  
10/646,340  
Art Unit: 2616

Page 8

26. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Roberta A Shand  
Examiner  
Art Unit 2616



HUY D. VU  
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER  
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600